



DHS AT A GLANCE FY 2007

STATE OF MICHIGAN
**Department
of Human
Services**

MISSION

The Michigan Department of Human Services assists children, families and vulnerable adults to be safe, stable and self-supporting.

VISION

We will:

- Reduce poverty.
- Help all children have a great start in life.
- Help our clients achieve their full potential.

EMPLOYEES

DHS had 9,865 employees in FY 2007. Nearly 90 percent of staff are located in local offices as family independence specialists, eligibility specialists, child and adult service workers, disability examiners, clerical, licensing and investigative staff or residential care facilities employees. The remaining employees provide management and support for field staff; provide support services such as data processing, policy development, personnel, financial management; and operate centrally administered programs.

LOCATIONS

The central administrative offices are located in Lansing. Services to clients are available through a county office network. Some of the more heavily populated areas have several district offices. For instance, Wayne County has 20 district offices and Oakland County has four with central administration offices for each. Some staff serve clients through Family Resource Centers located in 49 community schools.

BUDGET

The FY 2007 appropriation total is \$4.47 billion. Child day care is DHS's largest program, with an appropriation of \$391.9 million. The Family Independence Program (FIP) has appropriated funds of \$354.7 million. The federal government shares in the cost of FIP and State Emergency Relief and pays virtually all Food Assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program costs. The State Disability Assistance program is funded with a combination of SSI recoveries, public assistance recoupments and state dollars.

FINANCIAL PROGRAMS

Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity

Provides technical assistance and oversight to 30 community action agencies and two limited purpose agencies administering the federally funded Community Services Block Grant, Weatherization Assistance Program, Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program and other funding sources that flow to the local agencies through DHS.

Child Development and Care/ Child Day Care Services (CDC)

Pays a portion of child day care expenses for low-income families when the parent, legal guardian, or other caretaker is unavailable to provide child care due to employment, education, or a health or social condition for which treatment is being received. In FY 2007, the parents of a monthly average of 109,519 children received day care support.

Office of Child Support

In partnership with local friends of the court and prosecuting attorneys, provides case initiation and locator services, establishes paternity, establishes and enforces support orders, and collects and distributes child support payments through the statewide Michigan Child Support Enforcement System and the State Disbursement Unit.

Family Independence Program (FIP)

Provides cash assistance to eligible families with children. A typical FIP case is composed of one parent and two children. A family with income may be eligible if the income is less than the family's needs by FIP standards. DHS also provides in-home, family-based services that connect the family to community resources to prevent child abuse/neglect and enhance family interactions. Many FIP adults participate in the Jobs, Employment and Training program.

Food Assistance Program (FAP)

Increases the food purchasing power of low-income households. Food Assistance benefits decrease as income increases.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Helps meet home heating costs. Some households may receive more than one LIHEAP service. LIHEAP funds for heating

assistance are also available through the Department of Treasury's Home Heating Credit.

Medicaid (Medical Assistance Program)

Provides necessary health care services for FIP and SSI recipients and other low-income people who are under age 21, caring for children, pregnant, disabled, blind, or age 65 and older. Medicaid funds are administered by the Michigan Department of Community Health. Eligibility is determined by DHS staff.

State Disability Assistance (SDA)

Provides cash assistance to disabled adults who do not have dependent children. To qualify, a person must be unable to work for at least 90 days due to physical or mental impairment. A person with income can be eligible for SDA if his/her income is less than his/her needs by SDA standards.

State Emergency Relief (SER)

Provides limited assistance to individuals and families facing emergencies that threaten their health or safety. Covered services include: rent payments to avoid homelessness; house payments and property tax payments when foreclosure or tax sales are imminent; home repairs; assistance with home heating, electric, and water bills; and burial assistance. DHS contracts with the Salvation Army to provide emergency shelter statewide. Anyone in need may apply for SER. Eligibility is not limited to recipients of other DHS assistance.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

The Social Security Administration manages this program for people who are blind, disabled, or elderly. DHS pays a supplement to all SSI recipients. Recipients of SSI are also automatically eligible for Medicaid.

Youth Programs

Youth Programs/Youth in Transition (YIT) is a funding source available to eligible youths in or exiting the foster care system. These funds can pay for educational needs, job training, independent living skills training, self-esteem counseling, and other supports designed to equip teens with the skills necessary to function as successful adults.

FINANCIAL PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

Michigan Manpower Information and Services to Transitioning Youth (MISTY) program is a statewide, comprehensive employment, vocational and job training program that is funded and managed by DHS. The program provides funding for transitional/reintegration services for delinquent youths who are state wards.

Educational Training Vouchers (ETV) are scholarships awarded to YIT eligible youths and those adopted from the child abuse/neglect system after their 16th birthday to attend accredited post secondary educational programs or training.

OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND ADULT LICENSING

Adult Community Placement

Provides community placement coordination for licensed, residential care for aged, physically handicapped or developmentally disabled adults who are unable to live alone.

Adult Independent Living Services

Offers a range of Medicaid and non-Medicaid services to individuals of any age who require consultation or assistance to maintain and maximize functional capacity within their own homes or other independent living arrangements.

The Bureau of Children and Adult Licensing

Is authorized to provide protection to vulnerable adults and children through the regulation of and consultation with licensed agencies, facilities and homes. It is comprised of three licensing divisions:

- **Adult Foster Care and Homes for the Aged**

Provides for the prevention of harm and the protection of vulnerable adults by licensing and regulating adult foster care homes, homes for the aged, and specialized programs for developmentally disabled and mentally ill individuals who reside in adult foster care.

- **Child Care Licensing Division**

Provides for the safety and protection of children in child care through licensing and regulating facilities. The division is committed to promoting the improvement of the health, safety, and development of children in child care through technical assistance, consultation, and education to providers and the public. Child care facilities include both homes and centers as well as family and group day care homes.

- **Child Welfare Licensing**

Provides for the safety and protection of children in out-of-home care through licensing and regulation of facilities. Licensed organizations include child-placing agencies, child caring institutions, court operated facilities, children's foster home and child and adult foster care camps.

SERVICE PROGRAMS

Adoption Services

Plans and supervises adoptive placement of permanent state or DHS-supervised court wards. The Michigan Children's Institute superintendent acts as legal guardian for permanent state wards. Payment and medical assistance may also be provided to parents adopting special needs children.

Central Adoption Registry

A file of statements by former parents and former adult siblings consenting to or denying release of identifying information to an adult adoptee. The registry is accessed by the court or adoption agency only, upon request by the adult adoptee.

Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ)

Provides care and supervision for juveniles placed in public residential treatment centers by the courts, quality assurance for juvenile justice programs in Michigan, training for all juvenile justice professionals in the state of Michigan, grant management for federal grants, and the administration and monitoring of the Child Care Fund. Services encompass a range of prevention, rehabilitation and residential programs to juvenile offenders ages 12 through 20. Placement options range from community-based programs to secure facilities with specialized treatment. BJJ programs are comprehensive and individualized, providing appropriate educational services, mental health services, family involvement and reintegration services.

Children's Foster Care

Provides placement and supervision for children who are temporary or permanent court or state wards. This includes children who cannot remain at home because the parent(s) are unable to provide minimal care and supervision. Department delivered services are focused on resolving the problems that necessitated the child's removal and providing stability and permanency for the child. About 6,700 foster children reside in licensed foster care. About 7,000

children are placed with relative caregivers. Placement decisions are made considering factors that keep children close to their communities, schools, friends and loved ones.

Children's Trust Fund (CTF)

A statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. CTF focuses on public awareness and education, training and technical assistance, information dissemination, and funding a statewide network of community-based prevention programs. CTF does not receive a state appropriation and its work is funded through children's license plate sales, direct donations, trust income, grants, and other fundraising activities.

Community Service Commission (CSC)

Provides more than \$6.2 million in federal funds to communities programs and activities. CSC funds 21 AmeriCorps programs and 33 Learn and Save programs. In FY 2007, these programs engaged more than 82,000 individuals in volunteer service. Other key CSC programs include the Governor's Service Award and Mentor Michigan.

Community Based Services (CBS)

Is responsible for family preservation and community support services. It operates as a resource to local offices and provides programs and funding for services that are targeted at keeping families together. Families First of Michigan, an intensive crisis intervention program, provides families with the support they need at a time when out-of-home placement of a child is imminent. The Family Reunification Program provides services to families to facilitate an early reunification from placement. Family Group Decision Making is a process where families develop their own plans for safety and sometimes placement via guardianship and receive ongoing support to implement the plan. CBS provides

SERVICE PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

technical assistance and support as it relates to Child Protection and Permanency and Strong Families/Safe Children funds.

Disability Determination Service (DDS)

Determines the disability eligibility of adults and children who apply for benefits under the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs. Clients may also be referred by DDS to other agencies for job training, and health services. DDS also makes disability decisions for disability related programs, such as State Disability Assistance and Medicaid. Disability decisions are also made for the state retirement system.

Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention & Treatment Board

Provides grants to 44 nonprofit community-based agencies that assist victims of domestic violence and their children. These agencies cover Michigan's 83 counties and provide a 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, individual and group counseling, information about legal options, and supportive services for children. Many of the agencies also provide community education and prevention programs and information on batterers intervention programs available in the local community. The board also provides grants to 29 community-based programs that provide rape prevention and services. These agencies provide a 24-hour crisis line and crisis intervention services, individual and group counseling, and information on legal options.

Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC)

Coordinates implementation of the state's comprehensive early childhood development system. A public non-profit corporation, ECIC works to assure the most efficient and effective use of federal, state, local, public and private funds for early childhood programs; focuses on increasing public awareness and community education to rank Michigan's young children among the state's highest investment priorities; and builds local early childhood systems through 21 local Great Start Collaboratives.

Office of the Family Advocate (OFA)

Serves as DHS' liaison to the Office of Children's Ombudsman. OFA is responsible for providing an objective review and assessment of department practice, policy and law to identify areas that need to be enhanced, or where additional training might help DHS workers do a better job of protecting children.

HIV/AIDS Services

Provides advocacy services for people who test positive for HIV or AIDS including information, referrals and coordination of DHS services with community resources, case management and other government benefits. The Insurance Assistance Program or the Insurance Assistance Program Plus pays the private medical insurance premiums for those with HIV or AIDS who qualify.

Migrant Affairs

Coordinates services to more than 90,000 migrant agricultural workers and family members every year through 11 regional Migrant Resource Councils and the Michigan Interagency Migrant Services Committee.

Native American Affairs – Indian Outreach

Coordinates implementation of federal and state laws, including the Indian Child Welfare Act. Develops programs and policy and coordinates resources, advocacy, training, and technical assistance. Provides information and referral to health, education, employment, training, and housing opportunities.

Protective Services

Protects children and vulnerable adults by investigating reports of alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation and provides services to families to help them function responsibly and independently in providing care for those for whom they are responsible.

Refugee Services

Coordinates a variety of services to eligible refugees. Services include reception and placement, short-term cash and medical assistance, comprehensive employment services, foster care for unaccompanied minors, and initial health screenings.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Services Program

Provides services to runaway and homeless youths and, when appropriate, their families. Services are provided through contracts with private agencies.

Safe Delivery

Michigan's Safe Delivery of Newborns law encourages troubled parents to place their newborn children in a safe environment. This law allows an anonymous surrender of an infant, from birth to 72 hours of age, to an emergency service provider - a uniformed or otherwise identified employee of a fire department, hospital or police station that is inside the building and on duty or a paramedic or emergency medical technician responding to a 911 call. The parent has the choice to leave the infant without giving any identifying information. Following an examination at a hospital, temporary protective custody will be given to a private adoption agency for placement with an approved adoptive family, if the child is unharmed. If the examination reveals signs of abuse and/or neglect, hospital personnel will initiate a referral to Children's Protective Services for an investigation.

Teen Parent Program

Provides comprehensive coordinated services to teen parents to assist in meeting the health and developmental needs of their children. Education, training and employment services are provided to enhance teen parents' capacity to independently provide for themselves and their children.

Volunteer Services

Based on the needs of the department, volunteers are recruited, trained and placed for direct services to DHS clients, as indirect client service providers or as administrative support for the department. Community resource coordinators mobilize and develop community resources and develop opportunities for community service for DHS employees.

Department of Human Services (DHS) will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs or disability. If you need help with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to make your needs known to a DHS office in your area.